[31st July 1933

Appointment of Mr. B. Adiseshayya as Election Officer, in addition to his duties as Special Officer, Bezwada Municipality.

* 11 *Q.*—Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi :— Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Mr. B. Adiseshayya has been appointed as Election Officer in addition to his duties as Special Officer;

(*b*) what salary this post carries; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that as Election Officer he is revising the list of voters of the Bezwada Municipality?

A.—(*a*) & (*c*) The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards, who is the Election authority for local board and municipal elections, has appointed the Special Officer of the Bezwada Municipality for the revision of the electoral rolls of the Masulipatam and Bezwada Municipalities.

(*b*) The Special Officer is paid no additional remuneration for doing this work.

Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi :—" Is Mr. B. Adiseshayya appointed as Special Officer or Commissioner? "

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" Originally he was appointed Special Officer and subsequently he was appointed Commissioner."

Resolution of the Salem Municipal Council regarding the admission of Harijans into coffee hotels.

* 12 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Salem Municipal Council has passed a resolution to the effect that permits for running coffee hotels in its area should be issued only to those who would allow access to Harijans as freely as to other sections of the community;

(*b*) whether the Government have vetoed the resolution; and

(*c*) if so, the reasons for their doing so?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The Government cancelled the Council's resolution for the following reasons, viz. :—

(1) the Collector of Salem stated that the resolution is opposed to a large body of public opinion, and considered that while it may not be of any benefit to the non-caste Hindus it may create trouble between them and the caste people; and

(2) in the opinion of the Government the by-law contemplated by the resolution might, if enforced, lead to a riot or an affray.

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" May I know whether any representations were made to the Collector by the public in Salem? "

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" I have no information."

31st July 1933]

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask, Sir, whether in the opinion of the Government it is in the competence or not of the municipal council and local bodies to pass a resolution of this nature?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I am afraid the Advocate-General has not been consulted. But I believe I am right in saying that it is in excess of the powers of the municipality to try to impose such a resolution."

Mr. M. Devadasan:—" The order of the Government is dated 23rd May and there was a three months' interval. Was there any breach of the peace before the Government suspended the resolution?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I believe the resolution has been passed but not given effect to."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether any opportunity was given to the municipal council before the cancellation was decided upon?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Yes, Sir, they were asked to give reasons."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether any steps are taken to ascertain public opinion independently of the Collector's report?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" No, Sir. The Government relied on the Collector's report and also on various petitions submitted to them by the proprietors of hotels."

Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—" In view of the fact that the proprietors are interested parties, could Government not have taken the opinion of the public, who are disinterested?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Government are assured by the Collector that public opinion is not unanimously in favour of it."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask whether in view of the resolution of this Council throwing open public wells to all classes which resolution was passed in November 1932, by the House, the Government would consider the desirability of vesting the local bodies with the power, if they have not got, to pass such a resolution?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I am afraid that according to the view of the Government, this particular resolution does not fall under that category. But, if it is a case of the municipality running a hotel, that body would be able to say who would be admitted and who would not be admitted."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that the local bodies are authorized to issue licences to the hotels to ensure the observance of sanitary rules?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—" It is stated that there is a risk of affray. There is such a risk in every case. What I want to know is that in view of the larger principle involved and in view of the fact that the

intelligent public of the country is in favour of the uplift of Harijans, will not the Government be pleased to take the risk of an affray to give effect to the resolution of the Council?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Government do not feel that social reform of this nature could be carried on by coercive measures. They also feel that it is not desirable to act in advance of public opinion."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Are the Government aware that certain hotels do not admit Muhammadans also?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Yes, Sir. Some of the hotels do not admit even caste-Hindus who are Non-Brahmans."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"When Government compelled municipalities to throw open public wells for Harijans why should they not think it fit that the municipalities should compel the hotel-keepers to admit Harijans?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The control over public wells and springs vest in the public bodies and they are maintained at public cost. Hotels are private institutions."

Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Is there such a community as Harijan community officially recognized?" (Laughter.)

Medical Administration

Personnel of the Selection Committee for admission of pupils into the Medical School, Rayapuram.

* 13 *Q*.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the personnel of the Committee appointed for the selection of candidates for admission into the Medical School at Rayapuram; and

(*b*) what the principle followed is in the selection of members of the Committee?

A.—(*a*) *Ex-Officio Member and President.*

(1) The Superintendent of the Royapuram Medical School.

Members.

(2) The Superintendent of the Lady Willingdon Medical School for Women, Madras.

(3) The Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General.

(4) M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar Avargal, L.M. & S., M.L.C.

(5) Dr. (Mrs.) S. Muthulakshmi Reddi, M.B.C.M.

(6) Khan Bahadur Janab Md. Azizulla Sahib Bahadur, B.A., M.B.C.M.

(7) M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib D. V. Narasimhaswami Garu, B.A., B.L., M.L.C.

(*b*) The personnel was chosen to represent the two Government Medical Schools in Madras, the Surgeon-General and non-officials.